

Electronic music proves 'interesting'

Electronic Music at Ein Karem: Josef Tal presents his "Variations" for Electronic Tape and the Piano Concerto No. 6, for Piano and Electronic Tape (Targ Music Centre, Ein Karem — October 26).

JOSEF Tal is a knowledgeable lecturer. He was slightly embarrassed talking about himself. Nevertheless, he tolerated our shortcomings in understanding the ramifications of this new medium, and succeeded—despite lengthy elaborations—to explain many technical terms and means to the assembly. The "Variations" — a premiere — were written (or rather assembled) with an eye to choreography, to include dancing and visual means (a screen projecting the score on



the background cloth); it lasts for close to 12 minutes. A theme, consisting of a group of sounds quickly following each other and taking no more than a few seconds, is being varied in many ways: in very low register, in high sonorities, in rhythmical impulses, in chords representing the "attack," others the "live" span of a sound, and again others to demonstrate the "decay" of the tone, and, of course, combinations of the various elements elaborated previously. The result is an interesting experiment in exploration of this new world of disembodied sounds. It is worth hearing, worth confronting even if one cannot enjoy it as music or its equivalent in emotional experience. It is a cliché to speak of such a confrontation as an "interesting experience"; unfortunately, no other term comes to mind.

His Sixth Piano Concerto — premiered at a Students' Concert in June this year—confirmed the first impression on that occasion: it is interesting enough to be heard again (no one could claim to remember much of its structure or content after the first hearing) and confirms rather the dictum that electronic music, if applied sincerely and responsibly, has its *raison d'être*, even for those who are staid and conservative in things musical.

YOHANAN BOEHM

Makarios rules out union with Greece

UNITED NATIONS (AP). — Archbishop Makarios, President of Cyprus, declared on Monday that Enosis — union with Greece — is no longer "feasible." And, the Greek Cypriot leader added, a solution of the Cyprus problem would "become easier" if there were no interference from outside.

At a luncheon given by the U.N. Correspondents Association, President Makarios said he was not in favour of talks between Greece and Turkey on the Cyprus issue. But, asked whether he would favour a guarantee by the two governments against Enosis, once a Cyprus agreement was arrived at, he said: "This question can be solved between the Greek and Turkish governments. It will not be difficult to find a solution which will satisfy the Turkish citizens of Cyprus."